

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1-43. (canceled)

44. (currently amended) ~~A method of treating an organism having a disease characterized by the undesired production of a protein comprising contacting the organism with a~~ compound comprising a plurality of units nucleosides linked by covalent linkages in a sequence ~~that is hybridizable to a complementary nucleic acid encoding the protein,~~ wherein:

~~said units are selected from nucleosides; and nucleobases;~~

~~said nucleosides are selected from α -nucleosides, β -nucleosides including 2'-deoxy-erythro-pentofuranosyl β -nucleosides, and 4'-thionucleosides, and carbocyclic-nucleosides;~~

~~said nucleobases are selected from purin-9-yl and pyrimidin-1-yl heterocyclic bases;~~

~~said linkages are selected from charged 3'-5' phosphorous, neutral 3'-5' phosphorous, charged 2'-5' phosphorous, neutral 2'-5' phosphorous or non-phosphorous linkages; and~~

~~said sequence of linked units nucleosides is divided into at least two regions,~~
wherein:

~~a first of said regions includes said nucleobases linked by non-phosphorous linkages and nucleobases that are attached to phosphate linkages via non-sugar tethering groups, and nucleosides selected from said α -nucleosides linked by charged and neutral 3'-5' phosphorous linkages, said α -nucleosides linked by charged and neutral 2'-5' phosphorous linkages, said α -nucleosides linked by non-phosphorous linkages, said or said 4'-thionucleosides linked by charged and neutral 3'-5' phosphorous linkages, said 4'-thionucleosides linked by charged and neutral 2'-5' phosphorous linkages, said 4'-thionucleosides linked by non-phosphorous linkages, said carbocyclic-nucleosides linked by charged and neutral 3'-5' phosphorous linkages, said carbocyclic-nucleosides linked by charged and neutral 2'-5' phosphorous~~

~~linkages, said carbocyclic nucleosides linked by non-phosphorous linkages,
said β -nucleosides linked by charged and neutral 2'-5' linkages, and said β -
nucleosides linked by non-phosphorous linkages; and~~

a second of said regions includes said 2'-deoxy-erythro-pentofuranosyl
 β -nucleosides linked by charged 3'-5' phosphorous linkages ~~having a negative
charge at physiological pH~~

~~wherein the compound interferes with production of the protein.~~

45-68. (canceled)